

Notes on the Ferns of the Eastern United States

(concluded)

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ATHYRIUM FILIX-FEMINA (L.) Roth var. CYCLOSORUM (Ledeb.) Moore, Ind. Fil. 183. 1860. The Alaskan form of the lady-fern, which occurs also in Newfoundland and Quebec, has been commonly called var. *sitchense* Rupr. ex Moore, Ind. Fil. 183. 1860. It has been overlooked that Moore did not recognize var. *sitchense*. This name appears only in the synonymy of var. *cyclosorum*, a name attributed to Ruprecht by Moore. Moore was the first author to unite these two varieties, and since he adopted the epithet *cyclosorum* and placed *sitchense* in synonymy, he must be followed, provided that these two names do refer to the same variety. It seems possible that *cyclosorum*, as delimited by Ledebour (and Ruprecht) included some material of typical *A. Filix-femina*, but it was mostly based on the same form as *sitchense*. Consequently *cyclosorum* is the legitimate varietal epithet. However, Moore was in error in attributing the combination to Ruprecht, for Ruprecht published it as *Athyrium Filix-foemina* γ *Athyrium cyclosorum*, a binomial nomenclature for subspecies contrary to the present International Rules of Nomenclature. The first valid publication is that of Ledebour¹⁹ as *Asplenium Filix-femina* γ *cyclosorum*. As a subspecies, the plant ought to be known as *A. Filix-femina* subsp. *cyclosorum* (Ledeb.) C, Chr, in Hultén, Fl. Aleut. Isl. 50. 1937.

ATHYRIUM FILIX-FEMINA (L.) Roth var. MICHAUXII (Spreng.) Farwell. In 1917, Dr. F. K. Butters²⁰ published a detailed study of the North American lady-ferns.

¹⁹ Fl. Rossica 4: 519. 1853.

²⁰ Rhodora 19: 170-202. 1917.